

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 DRC-01 /159 W
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R 291520Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8894

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 614

AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 1456

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO FR

SUBJ: LIPKOWSKI VISIT TO BELGRADE

1. FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE HAS PROVIDED SOME SIDELIGHTS ON MARCH 20-22 BELGRADE VISIT OF QUAI PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY JEAN DE LIPKOWSKI AS HEAD OF FRENCH SIDE OF YUGOSLAV-FRENCH MIXED ECONOMIC COMMISSION.

2. MAIN THRUST OF FORMAL DISCUSSIONS WAS ECONOMIC, WITH MOST TIME SPENT ON HOW TO SOLVE TRADE IMBALANCE IN FAVOR OF FRANCE, AND HOW TO STIMULATE FRENCH EQUITY INVESTMENT IN YUGOSLAVIA. EMBASSY SOURCE SAID SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE ON FORMER, BUT LITTLE ON LATTER "SINCE WE HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS YOU DO TRYING TO GET PEOPLE TO INVEST WHERE THEY ARE NOT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED".

3. LIPKOWSKI IN ADDITION CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER BIJEDIC
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AND FONSEC MINIC, THE LATTER AT THE DALMATIAN RESORT WHERE

HE IS RECOUPERATING FROM AN ILLNESS. BOTH CONVERSATIONS WERE GENERAL REVIEWS OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL TOPICS WITH BOTH YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS EXPRESSING DISTRESS AND PUZZLEMENT AT ITALIAN POSITION ON TRIESTE ZONE "B" ISSUE.

4. REGARDING MINIC'S HEALTH, LIPKOWSKI WAS TOLD MINIC HAD PLANNED TO GO TO THE ALGIERS NONALIGNED COORDINATING MEETING BUT HIS DOCTORS MADE HIM CANCEL OUT ONLY A FEW DAYS BEFORE IT TOOK PLACE. HE NOW PLANS TO ATTEND THE UNGA, BUT DID NOT SEEM TOTALLY CONFIDENT THAT HIS DOCTORS MIGHT NOT ONCE AGAIN FORCE CANCELLATION.

5. COMMENT: ROUTINE WAY IN WHICH THIS VISIT WAS HANDLED REINFORCES IMPRESSION CONVEYED BEFORE LIPKOWSKI ARRIVED BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR, WHO TOLD AMBASSADOR THE FRENCH WERE QUITE UNHAPPY WITH YUGOSLAV BEHAVIOR STEMMING FROM YUGOSLAV FAVORABLE VOTE FOR CONDEMNING FRENCH TESTING IN THE PACIFIC. FONMIN JOBERT ALLEGEDLY TOLD YUGOSLAVS HE WOULD FORGET PLANS FOR STATE VISIT HERE IN THE EVENT OF SUCH A VOTE, AND AT THIS POINT IS STICKING TO THAT POSITION, TO THE DISMAY OF THE YUGOSLAVS. (ALL ADDRESSEES HANDLE FRENCH AMB'S REMARKS WITH DISCRETION.)
TOON

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30 JUN 2005

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